THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) State Government of Madhya Pradesh has given 30 acres of land at Jabalpur Airport and 355.66 acres of land at Khajuraho Airport to Airports Authority of India (AAI).

The development work has been completed at Jabalpur Airport and runway extension has been completed at Khajuraho Airport.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been decided to give 5.87 acres land on lease to State Government of Madhya Pradesh at a token fee of Re. 1/- subject to certain conditions.

Indigenous pilot training

814. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of pilots in the next five years in the country and how will it be met by the Ministry; and

(b) the reasons for getting pilot training by Boeing and Airbus abraod and not in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The requirement of pilots is expected to grow with the growth in civil aviation sector and depends on number of aircraft inducted from time to time and their continued operations. The steps taken by the Ministry to meet the future requirement of pilots include increasing the training capacity of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Udan Academy (IGRUA), setting up of a new pilot training academy, relaxation of requirement of flying hours from 250 to 200 hours, relaxation in the upper age from 60 to 61 years subject to medical fitness and permitting appointment of foreign pilots.

(b) since simulators of Airbus and Boeing types of aircraft are not available with private airlines in India, pilots are sent for training on Boeing and Airbus abroad.

New aircrafts in Gulf-Kerala Sector

815. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of service which are being operated by Air India to Gulf sector from Thiruvananthapuram International airport;